

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5660

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EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: US KS MPOL MARR
SUBJ: TROOP WITHDRAWAL: DIPLOMATIC COMPENSATORY MEASURES

REF: STATE 5535 AND PREVIOUS

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF ROKG PROPOSED JOINT STATEMENT
RELATING TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. GROUND FORCES PRESENTED
BY MOFA ASSISTANT MINISTER YI MUN-YONG TO POLCOUNS
JULY 7, 1977 (SEE SEPTTEL):

BEGIN TEXT:

JOINT STATEMENT

BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
RELATING TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. GROUND FORCES

1. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED
STATES GOVERNMENT HELD CONSULTATIONS ON THE MATTERS RELATING
TO THE PLANNED WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. GROUND FORCES FROM KOREA
IN A SPIRIT OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND CLOSE COOPERATION.

2. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REAFFIRMED ITS BASIC
POSITION THAT THE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. GROUND FORCES WILL
BE CAREFULLY PHASED AND CARRIED OUT IN FULL CONSULTATION
WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND IN A
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WAY WHICH WILL NEITHER UPSET THE MILITARY BALANCE ON THE
KOREAN PENINSULA NOR INDUCE MISCALCULATIONS ON THE PART OF
NORTH KOREA. THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES
AGREED THAT NECESSARY COMPENSATORY MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN
IN ADVANCE OF OR IN PARALLEL WITH THE ACTUAL TROOP WITHDRAWALS.
THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES ALSO AGREED TO
CAREFULLY REASSESS THE SECURITY SITUATION IN THE KOREAN

PENINSULA AND OTHER RELEVANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA BEFORE UNDERTAKING EACH PHASE OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. GROUND FORCES FROM KOREA.

3. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES REASSURED THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL MAINTAIN AND FULFILL ITS SECURITY COMMITMENT TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND, THE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. GROUND FORCES FROM KOREA WILL IN NO WAY AFFECT THE FIRM DETERMINATION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO MEET PROMPTLY AND EFFECTIVELY WITH ALL AVAILABLE MEANS ANY ARMED ATTACK AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, INCLUDING REINTRODUCTION OF U.S. GROUND FORCES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY OF 1954 BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES. FOR THIS PURPOSE AND AS A CLEAR EVIDENCE OF U.S. DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN A STRONG DETERRENCE AGAINST RECURRENCE OF MILITARY CONFLICT, THE UNITED STATES WILL MAINTAIN ITS AIR, NAVAL AND OTHER GROUND SUPPORT FORCES IN KOREA.

4. IN LIGHT OF UNCHANGED ATTITUDE OF NORTH KOREA TO COMMUNIZE THE WHOLE OF KOREA BY THE USE OF FORCE OR VIOLENCE, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REAFFIRMED THAT THEY MUST REMAIN ALERT AND TAKE ALL THE NECESSARY PREVENTIVE MEASURES SO THAT PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA MAY BE MAINTAINED. NORTH
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KOREA THEREFORE SHOULD HAVE NO DOUBT WHATSOEVER ABOUT THE RESOLUTE DETERMINATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES IN RESISTING ANY MILITARY PROVOCATION BY NORTH KOREA.

5. THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE THEIR JOINT DIPLOMATIC ENDEAVOURS TO REDUCE TENSION AND CONSOLIDATE PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA IN THE HOPE THAT THE OTHER PARTIES CONCERNED WOULD RESPOND AFFIRMATIVELY TO THE VARIOUS CONSTRUCTIVE PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES, SUCH AS THE IMMEDIATE RESUMPTION OF THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE, THE CONCLUSION OF SOUTH-NORTH NON-AGGRESSION PACT AND THE CONVENING OF THE CONFERENCE OF PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH THE KOREAN ARMISTICE.

6. IT IS REAFFIRMED THAT, BEARING IN MIND THE PROVISION OF PARAGRAPH 62 OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT SIGNED ON 27 JULY, 1953, THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND WILL CONTINUE TO FUNCTION AS THE PEACE-KEEPING MACHINERY IN THE ABSENCE OF A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENT TO ENFORCE THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT, THE ONLY EXISTING LEGAL ARRANGEMENT WHICH COMMITS THE PARTIES CONCERNED TO MAINTAIN PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA.

7. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO ASSIST THE ROK FORCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND THE DEFENSE INDUSTRIES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO ENSURE THE EARLY REALIZATION OF THE SELF-RELIANCE DEFENSE POSTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

8. THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES AGREED THAT IN AN EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN THE DEFENSE CAPABILITIES IN KOREA AND EFFECTIVE BILATERAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN PRESERVING PEACE AND SECURITY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA, THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WILL ESTABLISH AND OPERATE A COMBINED MILITARY COMMAND IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. GROUND FORCES FROM KOREA.
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9. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, CONVINCED OF THE IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPING THEIR RESPECTIVE POLICIES THROUGH CLOSE AND FREQUENT CONSULTATIONS ON MATTERS OF COMMON INTERESTS, HAVE AGREED TO HOLD ANNUAL CONSULTATION ON THE BROAD RANGE OF FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS. THE CONSULTATION WILL BE HELD BETWEEN THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

10. THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES REAFFIRMED THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES SHALL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN THEIR MUTUAL ENDEAVOURS TO JOINTLY CONTRIBUTE TO PEACE AND SECURITY NOT ONLY OF THIS REGION BUT ALSO OF THE ENTIRE WORLD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GENERAL PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER. END TEXT.
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